



WHY IS DEAD WOOD SO IMPORTANT?

Logs and other dead, woody material found on the forest floor provide homes for many animals and insects. As the wood decomposes, important nutrients are released into the soil that keep the land healthy and productive. Fish depend on woody debris too. In streams, creeks, and lakes, dead wood creates pools where fish can rest and spawn. As the wood decomposes, it also enriches the water providing the basis for aquatic food chains. Standing dead trees (snags) are also important to the forest because they provide homes for wildlife, many of which help control insect and rodent populations. Standing trees containing visible cavities, hollows, or nests SHALL NOT BE CUT.

In some areas, there is a scarcity of dead, woody material in the forest. In these areas, wildlife species, like the pileated and downy woodpeckers, flying squirrels, raccoons, and salamanders, may decline because the depleted areas no longer provide the shelter and food sources, such as ants and grubs, necessary for their survival.

Down trees are important for streams, floodplains, and wetlands. Firewood should not be collected if the tree is within 10 feet of stream channels. Firewood should not be collected within 200 feet of Wilderness Trout Streams, Remote Trout Streams, and Class A Trout Streams (identified on the map in blue). Firewood should also not be collected within 25 feet of wetlands, including springs and seeps, and 100 feet of vernal pools because frogs and salamanders use the downed wood for habitat.

Forest managers want to keep certain amounts of both standing and down deadwood in the forest. This is becoming more difficult as competition for suitable firewood increases and as the timber industry finds more uses for woody debris.

Firewood gathering is permitted only within 150 feet of Forest Service Development Roads which are designated by a standard FS road number as shown on the map.

DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD!

- Leave firewood at home – do not transport it to other areas.

- Use firewood from local sources – the Allegheny National Forest has a ban on firewood from outside Elk, Forest, Warren, and McKean Counties.

- If you have moved firewood from outside the area onto the Allegheny, burn all of it before leaving your camping area.

- Numerous State and Federal quarantines exist, which prohibit movement of ash and oak products and all hardwood firewood in Ohio, New York, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

- Obey all State and Federal orders.

Our forest is threatened by non-native insects that can kill large numbers of trees. Firewood may contain non-native insects and plant diseases. Bringing firewood into the Allegheny from other areas, or transporting firewood from an infested area on the Allegheny to another area may accidentally spread pest insects and diseases and is illegal. For example, the emerald ash borer, an introduced insect from Asia, has killed millions of acres of ash trees and continues to spread. It can be transported long distances on firewood and once transported into new areas, this insect can become established and kill trees.

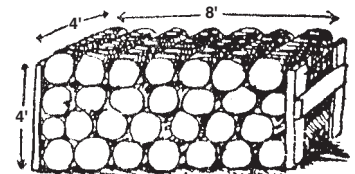
**We need your cooperation to
STOP THE SPREAD of these insects.**

QUANTITY LIMITS

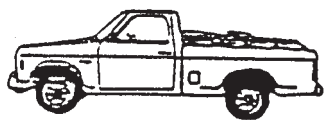
Firewood is measured in units of 100 cubic feet (Ccf) of solid wood. Under the personal use program, a person and/or members of his/her household may not collectively purchase more than 8 Ccf of firewood from National Forests during a calendar year. All firewood cut and removed from the National Forest must be cut into pieces not exceeding 30 inches in length.



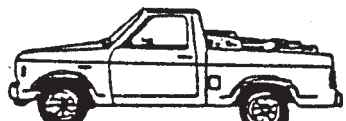
MEASURING AND REMOVING FIREWOOD FROM THE FOREST



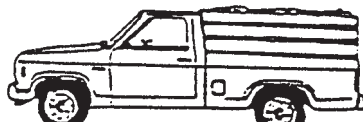
1 Cord = 128 cf or 1.28 Ccf
(4' X 4' X 8' = 1.28 Ccf)



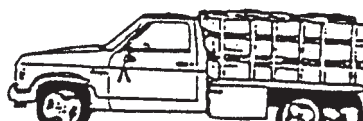
SMALL PICKUP
1/4 TON



SHORT BED PICKUP
1/2 TON



LONG BED PICKUP
1/2 OR 3/4 TON



STANDARD 1 TON TRUCK

Firewood is commonly measured in cords. A standard cord is the amount of tightly stacked wood 4 feet wide by 4 feet high by 8 feet long. The Forest Service sells firewood based on cubic feet (cf). 100 cf (1 Ccf) is equivalent to 0.78 cords.

With or without racks, this truck will hold approximately .4 Ccf of wood.

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Without racks, this truck bed holds approximately .4 Ccf of wood.

With racks, it will hold approximately .8 Ccf of wood.

With high racks, this truck bed holds approximately 1.2 Ccf.

Please note that trucks may be overloaded when filled with wood. Check the owner's manual for your vehicle to see what load weights the truck can safely haul.

CUTTING STANDING TREES

When cutting firewood, be on the lookout for telltale signs of animal life in trees — before you cut. Animals need dead trees for food and homes for their families. In many forest areas, certain kinds of trees, both dead and alive, are reserved for dependent animals.

PLEASE DO NOT CUT TREES WITH:



TRUNK HOLES
OR VISIBLE NESTS



BROKEN TOPS

DO NOT CUT TREES WITH:



PAINT MARKS



WILDLIFE SIGNS



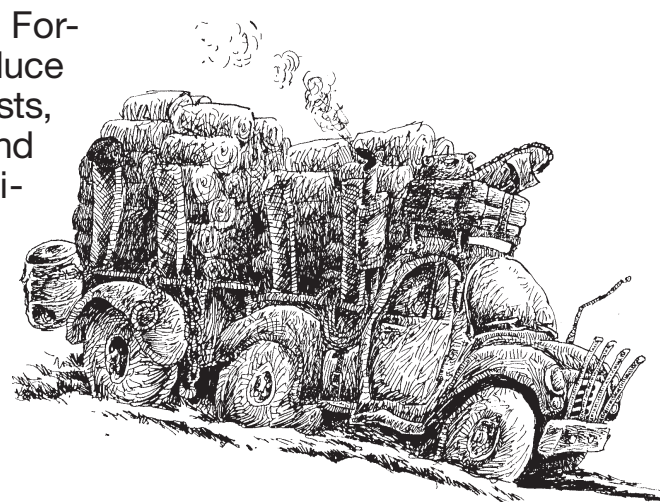
ANY OTHER TREE
PROHIBITED BY PERMIT

OPPORTUNITY AREAS

On occasion the Forest Service will identify areas where we would like to direct firewood cutting. These are generally areas designated to help clean up logging debris or are areas traditionally closed but are being opened to provide a firewood cutting opportunity. You will need to watch local newspapers or call an office in order to learn of these opportunities. Although the Forest Service will monitor the cutting in these areas, we cannot guarantee that firewood will still be available when you actually arrive at the area.

RESOURCE PROTECTION – ROAD CLOSURES

Some roads on the Forest are closed to reduce road maintenance costs, prevent soil erosion, and protect wildlife habitat. These roads are commonly closed to vehicle traffic with barricades constructed from mounds of earth or gates.



FIREWOOD CUTTING SAFETY TIPS

1. NEVER go to the woods alone.
2. NEVER fell trees in high winds.
3. NEVER operate a saw when under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or when fatigued.
4. NEVER approach a chainsaw operator from behind.
5. Keep pets and children away from the work area. When cutting a standing tree, keep helpers and vehicles out of reach of the falling tree. Usually 150 feet is safe.
6. ALWAYS keep the chain sharp.
7. ALWAYS wear the proper safety clothing and equipment. For example, a hardhat, chaps, safety glasses, and hearing protection.



WHERE FIREWOOD GATHERING IS PROHIBITED

**Firewood Cutting
Prohibited
In This Area**



There are areas on the Allegheny National Forest where firewood gathering for home use is prohibited. The management philosophy for the majority of these areas is to have areas where the natural ecosystems can be preserved and where vegetation can progress through natural succession.

All of these areas where firewood gathering is prohibited are identified on your map. If you wish further information on these areas please contact any office on the Allegheny National Forest.

OTHER AREAS

On occasion the Forest Service will identify areas where cutting firewood will not be compatible with specific resource objectives. There could be critical wildlife habitat which needs

to be protected or a general wildlife habitat improvement project. These areas will be signed and easy for you to identify on the ground and will change year to year. **Local, county, and state law enforcement officials have authority to check and enforce Forest Service regulations.**

TIMBER SALE AREAS

**TIMBER
SALE AREA**

**NO Firewood
Cutting Allowed**

You are prohibited from cutting firewood on timber sale areas posted as no firewood cutting. These areas are under contract and contain contractual obligations designed to protect the purchaser and the Forest Service. These areas will be posted on the ground and will vary from year to year.

TO GET ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL OR WRITE:

Allegheny National Forest (814) 723-5150
4 Farm Colony Drive
Warren, PA 16365

Marienville Ranger District ... (814) 927-6628
131 Smokey Lane Located on SR 66 North of
Marienville, PA 16239 Marienville.

Bradford Ranger District (814) 362-4613
29 Forest Service Drive Located at jct. of SR 59 & SR
Bradford, PA 16701 321 South, West of Marshburg

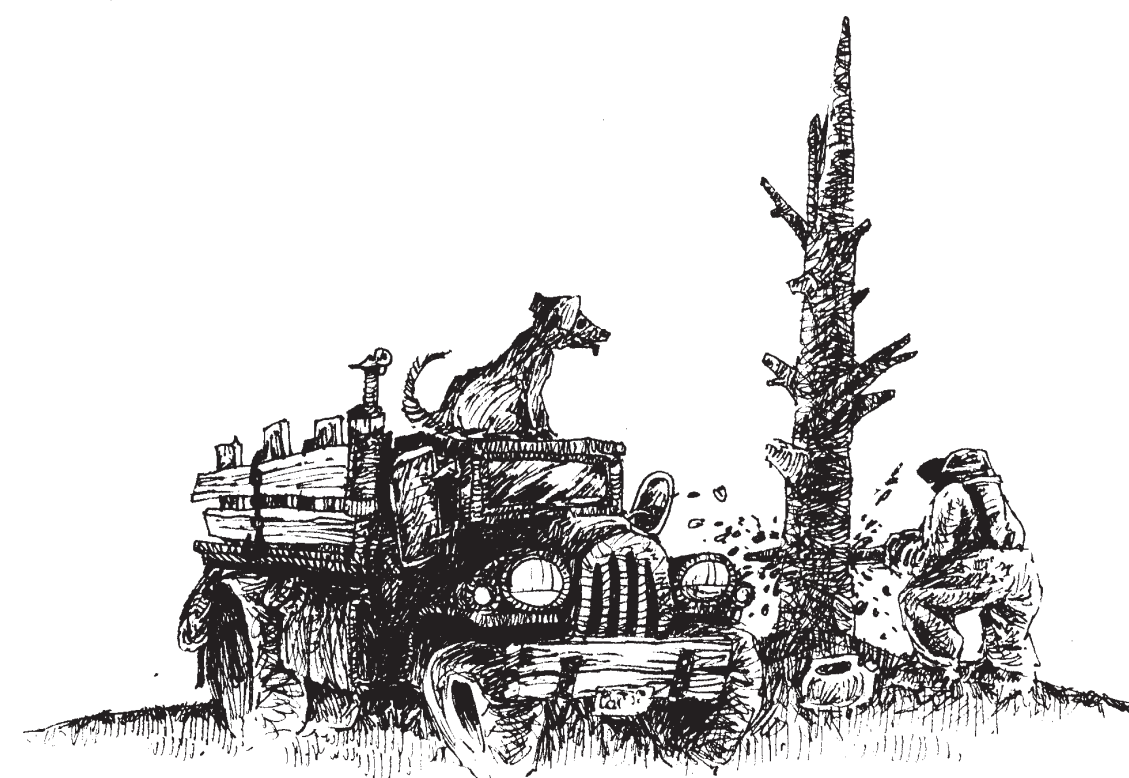
www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/allegheny

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Personal Use Firewood



Allegheny National Forest

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

